

9 June 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Research and Reports
FROM: Chief, Geographic Research
SUBJECT: GRA Activity Report for the Month of May 1959

A. Research and Technical Support Activity

1. Two special Geographic Intelligence Reports on West China, and continued cartographic support on the China-Tibet problem were among specific Area contributions

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3. A contribution was made to SNIE 11-7-59, Probable Soviet Position at a Conference on Antarctica, which summarized past Soviet activities and future objectives. Emphasis was given to an analysis of the role of Antarctica in the broad Soviet objective to collect earth-wide observations in order to gain supremacy in the understanding of natural phenomena for their exploitation and control.

4. The Scientific Intelligence Committee summation of our contribution to NIE 11-6-59, Soviet Science and Technology, was reviewed, found to be inadequate, and re-submitted to SIC. The new draft was accepted and incorporated into the final draft to ONE.

5. The reference servicing of map materials during the month, in addition to taking care of normal requests, included filling four rush requests for the White House; forwarding of materials to two overseas field offices; and the selection from the collection of CIA-produced maps of a group of specialized subject and base maps for the Net Evaluation Subcommittee of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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B. Planning and Development

1. Several projects are in the planning and development stage in the Area, including a GM on disputed areas on the India-Tibet Frontier; a study of the territorial and sovereignty problems in the Arctic; and the consideration of a number of problems involved in the production and sale of the atlases on the USSR and China. The question of the publication of these atlases on an Unclassified basis was taken up with the DD/I, who granted permission for their publication and sale with attribution to CIA.

2. The organizational meeting of the Southeast Asia Discussion Group was held on 28 May. Representatives of sixteen Agency components -- eleven from the DD/I and five from the DD/P -- were in attendance. The group will meet monthly to discuss subjects of mutual interest, comment on draft CIA papers, and on occasion, hear briefings by individual members. The idea of the group's existence and continued activity was enthusiastically received by the participants.

4. The Special Support Branch, D/GC, has arranged with the Printing Services Division to produce Special Intelligence maps larger than $8\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ for insertion in reports.

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5. The workload responsibilities of the Reference Branch personnel of the Map Library Division is being converted to a regional basis.

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4. Representatives of the Weapons Systems Evaluation Group, Department of Defense, consulted with Area personnel to compare our estimates of error with others in the positioning of targets between Soviet launch sites and U.S. targets.

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5. [] Geography Division, met with Ambassador Daniels and his staff on problems confronting the United States related to the forthcoming Antarctic Conference.

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